

Message Text

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63

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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R 061800Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2309

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PASS DEPT.AGRICULTURE FOR STEINMETZ AND ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: AMI VISIT

1. ON APRIL 30, AMI PRESIDENT LYNNG AND MR.BAINES VISITED AG.ATTACHE AND PAID A BRIEF "COURTESY CALL" ON DR. RASCHKE, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN PROGRAMS GERMAN MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION.

2.IN TALKS WITH AG.ATTACHE, MR. LYNNG EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT OUR INDUSTRY WOULD SOON BE ABLE TO SUPPLY TO GERMAN MARKETS NOT ONLY OFFALS BUT ALSO OTHER RED MEATS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES. AS TO VETERINARY PROBLEMS, HE STATED THAT THE MEDICAL CERTIFICATION CONTINUED TO BE A MAJOR OBSTACLE AND HE SAW NO HOPE FOR ANY CHANGE IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. HE FELT THAT THE OTHER MEAT INSPECTION PROBLEMS COULD, IN TIME, BE OVERCOME.

3. MR.LYNNG EXPLAINED TO DR.RASCHKE THAT HE WAS IN GERMANY VISITING THE FRANKFURT INTERNATIONAL MEAT EXHIBIT AND ON THAT OCCASION WANTED TO RETURN RASCHKE'S VISIT TO AMI OF LAST DECEMBER. HOWEVER, HIS CALL WAS A COURTESY CALL AND HE DID NOT COME TO THE MINISTRY IN ORDER TO PRESENT ANY NEW PROPOSALS. NEVERTHELESS, HE EXPRESSED THE INDUSTRY'S STRONG DESIRE TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE GERMAN

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MARKET. THIS WAS "NOT SO MUCH A SHORT-TERM CONCERN, BUT

A LONG-TERM CONCERN". THE PRESENT GERMAN REGULATIONS WOULD PROBABLY NOT ENABLE ANY U.S. PLANT TO COMPLY. RASCHKE SAID THEY HAD PRESENTED THE PROBLEM TO THE EEC, BUT THERE HAD NOT YET BEEN DISCUSSION OF DETAILS. THEIR PROPOSALS TO BRUSSELS WOULD NOT RELATE TO THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION. THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION PROBLEM WOULD HAVE TO BE SOLVED ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, PROBABLY IN CODEX.

4. ON MAY 2, RASCHKE STATED TO AG.ATTACHE THAT THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION HAD NOT REVEALED ANY NEW ASPECTS. HE HAD GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S. INDUSTRY IS NOT VERY INTERESTED IN EXPORTING TO GERMANY AND THEREFORE IT WILL NOT ADJUST TO THE GERMAN REQUIREMENTS ESPECIALLY CONCERNING MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND TIME OF INSPECTION IN THE LARGE HOG SLAUGHTER PLANTS. ON FUTURE PROSPECTS, HE REMARKED THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE U.S. SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS BEING MET BY ALL OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD. THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED THE REVISED (SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED) LISTS OF CANADIAN RED MEAT PLANTS: 19 SLAUGHTER HOUSES, 18 PROCESSING PLANTS, AND 10 BREAKING PLANTS COMMITTED TO ADJUST WITHIN CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME. AT THE SAME TIME, THE CANADIANS HAD SUBMITTED A LIST OF POULTRY PLANTS CERTIFIED TO BE IN FULL COMPLIANCE: 1 SLAUGHTER PLANT AND 5 PROCESSING PLANTS.

WE HAVE EXPLAINED, AND DR.RASCHKE IS WELL AWARE THAT ALL COUNTRIES HAVE NOT CONFORMED TO THE GERMAN REGULATIONS, AND HE IS FURTHER WELL AWARE THAT THE OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE EC DO NOT REGARD THE GERMAN REGULATIONS AS BINDING ON THEM.

5. TRADE SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT U.S. TRADE STATISTICS WHICH SHOW CONTINUAL SALES OF PORK LIVERS TO WEST GERMANY REPRESENT TRANSHIPMENTS TO THE GDR THROUGH HAMBURG. HOWEVER, WE HAVE ALSO BEEN INFORMED THAT SOME U.S. PORK LIVERS MIGHT WELL BE SHIPPED TO WEST GERMANY VIA OTHER COUNTRIES. THESE POINTS ARE BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH CONTACTS BUT WE HAVE AT THIS TIME NO PROOF

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CONCERNING THIS MATTER.
HILLENBRAND

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